

VOX NOSTRA

Vol VI

AUGUST 2018

No. 8

Dear Rev. Fathers, Deacons, Brothers and Sisters,

1. ANNIVERSARY OF ST LAWRENCE MINOR BASILICA

The second anniversary of the Proclamation and Dedication of St Lawrence Minor Basilica at Karkal Attur will be celebrated with the Holy Eucharist on Wednesday, 01 August 2018, at 11.00 a.m. The Titular Feast of St Lawrence will be celebrated on Friday, 10 August 2018 at 10.30 am. I invite all of you to these celebrations as we thank God for the gift of this Basilica to our Diocese and also for the numerous favours granted to our Diocese and to the devotees flocking to the Basilica through the powerful intercession of St Lawrence.

2. FEAST OF OUR PATRON ST JOHN MARY VIANNEY

St John Mary Vianney was a great priest, convinced of his mission. His life was filled with prayer, penance and self-denial. After being ordained a priest, situations calling for 'impossible' deeds followed him everywhere. As the pastor of the parish of Ars, Vianney worked miracles in the lives of many 'lost sheep'. His work as a confessor is his most remarkable accomplishment! Most of his time was spent in the Confessional reconciling people with God and imparting His mercy. As we celebrate the feast of St John Mary Vianney on August 4, I wish you, dear Rev. Fathers, retired and active in service, a very happy Patronal Feast. I request you to celebrate the day with great devotion so that our pastoral ministry becomes truly rewarding, both for ourselves and for the people entrusted to our pastoral care. May St John Mary Vianney intercede for us, all. Kindly request the faithful to pray for the priests of the Diocese.

3. PRISON MINISTRY SUNDAY

The **second Sunday of August** every year is celebrated as **Prison Ministry Sunday** throughout India. The Prison Ministry, India, recognized under CBCI, has issued a Pastoral Letter with the theme 'You are not alone'. Prisoners have to be reformed morally, spiritually, socially and economically so that, on discharge from the prisons, they can become law-abiding citizens, useful to themselves and the society. The society has a very big role to play in rehabilitating them. Let us develop the attitude of the Good Shepherd. For Jesus, minding sheep was not a job. It was his life. His heart was in his work. This brings out the best in people behind bars. Prison Ministry of India of the Udupi Diocese, under the direction of Rev. Fr Francis Cornelio, is actively involved in this ministry.

I request you, Rev. Fathers, to offer special prayers for the success of this ministry and for those prisoners and under-trials who are victims of circumstances, hatred and injustice. On this occasion of the Prison Ministry Sunday, a second collection will be made by the Society of St Vincent De Paul which will be used at the Diocesan level for the work of mercy and love towards the brethren behind bars. I urge you, all, to inform the faithful about this ministry and invite them to contribute generously towards the mission of Prison Ministry.

4. ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY AND INDEPENDENCE DAY OF INDIA

August 15 is not only an historical day for our motherland but also is dear to us as Catholics. While we rejoice over the singular privilege granted to our heavenly Mother to be assumed into heaven body and soul, we, the citizens of India, joyfully celebrate our political independence, granting to ourselves a sacred Constitution and a democratically elected government. On November 1, 1950, Pope Pius XII proclaimed the dogma that the Virgin Mary "having ended the course of earthly life, was assumed into heavenly glory in soul and body." Let us entrust ourselves to her maternal care and seek her blessing on our motherland so that all of us may enjoy the freedom of the children of

God as enshrined in our Constitution and live in harmony and peace as brothers and sisters.

The Solemnity of the Assumption is one of the days of obligation for the Church in India. I urge all parish priests to exhort the faithful about this day of obligation and to arrange masses so that all the faithful are able to participate in the Holy Eucharist. In addition, I exhort you, as responsible and patriotic citizens of our nation, to organize meaningful Independence Day celebrations in the church premises and in all our institutions by hoisting and saluting the National Flag. Kindly attend to the norms set out for the same.

5. COMMUNIO - INDIA COLLECTION

The CCBI has initiated a funding agency to assist mission dioceses in India which are facing financial difficulties for their pastoral and evangelical work. This would be a concrete expression of our solidarity with one another in following the example of the early Church that was filled with the power of the Holy Spirit. At the national level, it has been decided that the contribution on the first Sunday of Advent would be for this project. However, after sufficient deliberation in this regard during the meeting of the Council of Priests held on 16 March 2018, it was decided that the collection on Assumption Day would be sent to *Communio-India* project from our Diocese. Hence, I request you, dear Parish Priests, to kindly make an announcement in this regard in the parishes on the previous Sunday informing the faithful about *Communio-India* and urge them to contribute generously on 15 August 2018. Please find as annexure 1 on pages 9-11 the circular issued by CCBI in this regard.

6. JUSTICE SUNDAY

The Justice Sunday this year falls on 19 August 2018, the Sunday after Independence Day. The CBCI Office for Justice, Peace and Development has chosen the theme “I respect you” for this year. Let us pray that Justice and peace may prevail among all sections of our society Let us celebrate the **Justice Sunday 2018** meaningfully and also support the work of the Commission for Justice and Peace in

our Diocese. Please find as annexure 2 on pages 12-15 the Pastoral Letter of CBCI Office for Justice, Peace and Development for Justice Sunday 2018.

7. NATIONAL YOUTH SUNDAY

The year 2018 is significant for our youth as Pope Francis has chosen ‘Young People, Faith and Vocational Discernment’ as the theme of the upcoming Synod to be held in October 2018. The Holy Father desires that the Church should be ‘a home where youth feel welcome and wanted’. In order to recognize the role of youth in the Church, the 78th Executive Committee Meeting of CCBI has decided to celebrate the National Youth Sunday in the month of August every year. The National Office of Youth has fixed the first Sunday of August as the National Youth Sunday. However, the Dioceses are free to choose any Sunday in August as the Youth Sunday. In our Diocese, I request you, all, to celebrate the **YOUTH SUNDAY on 26 August 2018** with a special mass with meaningful liturgy for the youth. The collection should be made during this mass and sent to the Diocese to be forwarded to the National Office of Youth which will be utilized for organizing regional ACT (Animators’ and Chaplains’ Training). I request you, dear Parish Priests, to make adequate preparations to celebrate this day in collaboration with the Youth Commission of our Diocese.

8. PASTORAL CONSULTATION 2018

During the meeting of the Council of Priests held on 05 July 2018, it was proposed to hold the **Pastoral Consultation for a day on Wednesday, 29 August 2018**. I hereby approve the date and convoke the Pastoral Consultation 2018. The annual General Body meeting of PWS also will be held on that day. I expect your whole-hearted support and active participation in this Consultation which definitely would help us streamline our pastoral ministry in the Diocese.

9. NEW BISHOP OF MANGALORE

We are glad to learn that His Holiness Pope Francis has appointed

Rev. Fr Peter Paul Saldanha (54), of the clergy of Mangalore, as the new Bishop of Mangalore. This ecclesiastical provision was made public on Tuesday, 3rd July, 2018.

Rev. Fr Peter Paul Saldanha was born in Kinnigoli on 27 April, 1964. After his primary and secondary education in his village, he did his Philosophy and Theology at St Joseph's Inter-diocesan Seminary, Jeppu, Mangalore, and was ordained Priest on 6 May, 1991, for the Diocese of Mangalore. He served the Diocese of Mangalore as Assistant Parish Priest at St Lawrence Church, Moodubelle (1991-1992), Our Lady of Miracles Church, Milagres (1992-1994), Our Lady of Dolours Church, Vittal (1994-1996); Teacher and Formator at St Joseph's Inter-diocesan Seminary, Jeppu (1996-1999). He obtained a Diploma in Depth Psychology and Formation from the Institute for Formators, Bangalore, in 1994 and Doctorate in Theology from the Pontifical Urbanian University, Rome, in 2005. On his return he was appointed Professor at St Joseph's Inter-diocesan Seminary, Jeppu (2005-2010). Since 2010 he has been Professor of Dogmatic Theology at the Pontifical Urbanian University, Rome. From 2011 to 2015, he was Spiritual Father at the Pontificio Collegio Urbano De Propaganda Fide, Rome. On 14 March, 2015 the Holy Father appointed him as Consultor to the General Secretariat of the Synod of Bishops, and in July 2015 he was appointed as *Adiutor Secretarii Specialis* of the XIV Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops.

We rejoice over the appointment of Rev. Fr Peter Paul Saldanha as the Bishop of Mangalore and wish him good health and all the best as the shepherd of our Mother Diocese. Being in Rome, he has been of great help towards our Diocese in many ways. The Episcopal Consecration and the Installation will take place on Saturday, 15 September 2018 at 9.30 am at the Rosario Cathedral. Through the intercession of Our Lady of Miracles, our Patroness, may he be filled with wisdom and grace in the pastoral care of the Diocese of Mangalore.

10. FINANCIAL MANUAL

The updated **Financial Manual** is available at the Bishop's House. I request every parish to procure a copy of the same and follow the guidelines therein in keeping the accounts of the current financial year.

11. DIOCESAN DIRECTORY 2018

The new and updated Directory of our Diocese for the year 2018 is ready and available at Rs 75/- per copy at Divya Jyothi and with Fr Chetan Lobo, OFM Cap. at the Bishop's House.

12. APPOINTMENTS

Rev. Fr Chetan Lobo, OFM Cap. and Rev. Fr Royson Fernandes have been appointed the P.R.O. and the Designate P.R.O. of the Diocese respectively w.e.f. 01 August 2018.

Dr Edward Lobo, Pangala, has been appointed the Director of Health Commission w.e.f. 01 August 2018.

Yours in Christ,

+ 

+ Gerald Isaac Lobo
Bishop of Udupi

COMMUNICATION FROM PASTORAL COMMISSIONS

1. DIVYAJYOTHI

- 05/8/2018 Liturgical Seminar at Kuntalnagar
05/8/2018 Liturgical Seminar at Moodubelle
05/8/2018 OFEM at Kallianpur Deanery at Brahmavar Church -
2.30 to 5.00 pm
19/8/2018 Liturgical Seminar for Parish Conveners of Liturgical
Commission at Conference Hall, Bishop's House, Udupi
- 2.30 to 5.00 pm
26/8/2018 Liturgical Seminar at Pilar - 2.30 pm to 5.00 pm

Note: The Director will be in vacations from 6th to 13th August 2018.

Rev. Fr Stephen D'Souza
Director

2. COMMISSION FOR SCCs

- 01.08.2018 Kallianpur Deanery Committee meeting
02.08.2018 Kundapur Deanery Committee meeting
05.08.2018 PAT training of Udupi Parish
07.08.2018 DAT meeting
19.08.2018 Kundapur Deanery Convention-2018
Visit to Kanajar Parish SCC
22.08.2018 Follow up program for the Residential Camp
participants of 3 years (2016, 2017 & 2018)
26.08.2018 Kallianpur Deanery Convention-2018

Rev. Fr Harold Pereira
Director

3. YOUTH COMMISSION

- 05 Aug 2018 Supatha Aptitude Test
15 Aug 2018 Parisarostava

Rev. Fr Edwin D'Souza
Director

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